

first bond two sheets together and then, as a secondary step, somehow separate the two sheets by a ram or the like so as to form the fluid passages therebetween. With all due respect, the Applicants do not believe this is technically feasible. Whereas the first step can be easily accomplished by way of a rolling weld or the like, the step of subsequently forming the fluid passages would be difficult, if not impossible. Even if there were a practical way of inserting a ram or the like between the two sheets, because the flow passages are critical in their shape and size, this would be extremely difficult to control. Even if the problems of doing this were overcome, the Applicants believe that it would be impossible to form a serpentine passage in this manner. If the Examiner is able to suggest a practical way of doing this, the Applicants would like to hear suggestions as to how it would be accomplished. Since Applicant cannot conceive of the practical making of the product as claimed in Claims 6-10, by another and materially different process from that recited by claims 1-5, and since the Examiner has not suggested a viable method of doing so, the Applicants believe that the requirement for restriction is inappropriate in this case.

In addition to the reasons set forth hereinabove, the Applicant believes that the claims of the two groups are so closely related that the issuance of two separate patents on the subject matter concerned, assuming it to be patentably novel, would not be in the best interest of the Patent Office, the public, or the Applicants. The Applicants contend that the Examiner's requirement for restriction of the claims in the two groups is contrary to the intention of the Patent Office in respect to restriction practice as recited in the various Patent Office notices. It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw his requirement for restriction.

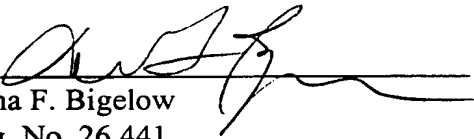
In the alternative, and solely for the purpose of meeting the Examiner's requirement, the Applicant has provisionally elected to prosecute the claims of the Examiner's Group II.

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicant's attorney at the phone number noted below.


The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

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